

WASHINGTON – Congressman John W. Olver (1st District) denounced the Administration's changes to the Clean Air Act.

"The Administration's decision to weaken New Source Review represents an aggressive attack on the Clean Air Act. New Source Review is the Clean Air Act program that requires the oldest and dirtiest power plants to clean up. The EPA's changes to the New Source Review will:

- Permit a facility to choose a baseline of emissions that would allow actual pollution to increase over time;
- Change the definition of routine maintenance, which will both substantially increase air pollution and allow facilities to avoid New Source Review; and,
- Allow emissions to rise at any industrial facility, including power plants; and,
- Make it more difficult for states to limit air pollution and to meet tough new standards for fine particulate matter.

Additional changes being proposed by the Administration would allow power plants to make virtually unlimited emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and mercury.

Twenty-six million Americans have been diagnosed with asthma and 8.6 million of them are under the age of 18.

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